

REMARKS

Claims 38-40 are pending in the present application. By this Amendment, Applicant has canceled claims 1-4 and new claims 38-40 have been added. Claims 5-37 remain withdrawn from consideration, with claim 11 identified as withdrawn-currently amended to correct typographical errors. Support for the new claims can be found throughout the specification and claims as originally filed. Entry and consideration of the new claims presented herein is respectfully requested. Accordingly, claims 38-40 are currently before the Examiner. Favorable consideration of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

Claim 2 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph as being indefinite. By this Amendment, claim 2 has been canceled. Therefore, this rejection is moot.

Claims 1-2 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e), as being anticipated by Nanthakumar *et al.* (US 7,159,740). By this Amendment, claims 1-2 have been canceled. Therefore, this rejection is moot.

Claim 3 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), as being unpatentable over Nanthakumar *et al.* (US 7,159,740) in view of Hatcher *et al.* (US 7,179,420). By this Amendment, claim 3 has been canceled. Therefore, this rejection is moot.

In accordance with the Examiner's determination of allowable subject matter, claim 4 has been cancelled and new claims 38-40 have been added. New claims 38-40 specifically claim several of the steps from canceled claim 4, including those directed to forming the powder bed. Claims 38-40 include the pertinent limitations of the base claim and allowance of these claims is respectfully requested.

Applicants aver that all pending and withdrawn claims were commonly owned as of the date of invention for each claim.

Respectfully submitted,

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